

Curriculum Committee Minutes January 8, 2019

The Curriculum Committee meeting was called to order at 6:16pm by Dave Nickels.

The Student Learning Office shared the following updates on grade alignment work.

Elementary Grade Alignment--

- The visioning committee has divided into work teams investigate three topics that could potentially have a great impact on student learning - student choice in learning, project-based learning, and social-emotional practices.
- Work teams will present their research findings on these topics January 15, 2019. They will also outline their ideas on how the elementary student experience would be different if we implemented the component they researched and what it would take to accomplish it (considering obstacles to overcome and professional development needs).

Middle School Grade Alignment--

- The guiding coalition examined three schedules that each represent their stated goals and values in different ways and selected one to move forward to the director team for consideration.
- The coalition recommended that the following be included within the selected schedule:
 - a. Start time: 7:45am (no change)
 - b. Advisory (social/emotional development) time: Beginning of each day
 - c. 6th Grade electives: Period 1 will be a wheel with 4 electives being offered for one Quarter (9 weeks) each. All students would take each elective. Period 2 would be an "A-B-C" rotation of the required Grade 6 electives--art, music, and PE.
 - d. Specific details of the electives offered to 7th and 8th grade students are still to be determined, with an open meeting being scheduled for January for further discussion and crafting of recommendations.
- The guiding coalition work teams--interdisciplinary teaming, transitions, social-emotional learning, student choice, and varied instruction--will shift their focus to action planning for implementation of best practices.

High School Grade Alignment--

- The focus for the visioning team is student transitions, staff transitions, and scheduling.
- Based on feedback from a survey of junior high school staff, a draft proposal for a staff transition plan has been created built upon the following goals:
 - a. Make new staff feel welcome in our learning community.
 - b. Provide staff opportunities to get to know their new colleagues.
 - c. Provide staff with ample time to prepare their classrooms and curriculum.
 - d. Provide opportunities for new staff members to share their views/opinions on the direction of our learning community.
- Student transition efforts have been organized around planning four processes:

- a. Formation of a Freshman Leadership Team to become a guiding coalition for developing structures to support freshmen and new student transition to Lincoln High School.
 - b. Planning spring Open House events directed at students and families of the classes of 2022 and 2023 to welcome them to Lincoln and provide information on how to prepare for success in the LHS learning community.
 - c. Refining plans to use the Link Crew system to introduce students to Lincoln and provide support and guidance throughout the school year.
 - d. Re-organizing plans to connect current high school students with current junior high school students to provide a new and different venue for students to share excitement and concern around the transition.
- The master schedule for 2019-20 will include a 90 min. midday block in which students rotate through lunch, WIN, and homeroom.

Teachnology Grade Alignment--

- Members of the Teachnology Team met with each principal in October to gain insights related to the current state of the union, plans for the year and ideas, questions and topics to consider for a successful grade alignment.
- Individual building techs have been tasked with compiling a list of all the things they can think of that will need to be done to make the transitions, including device transfers, inventory control, and communication, as smooth as possible.

Out of State Travel --

- Lori Williams, as president of the Wisconsin Mathematics Council (WMC), has been asked by the Executive Committee of the WMC to attend the *2019 Leadership Seminar for Mathematics Professional Development* because this year's theme is "Awareness and Action in Service of Equity in the Day to Day Work of Math Teaching, Learning, and Leading." Since MPSD data demonstrates the same trends for achievement gaps as the state overall, Lori's attendance would increase her knowledge of closing achievement gaps and increasing equity of opportunities for the students of color in the MPSD. This new knowledge can be shared in her regular work as a math coach and as part of the Student Learning Office PLC.
- The conference is scheduled in Oregon from February 27, 2019 through March 2, 2019.
- Lori will share the learning with the SLO PLC at regular PLC team meeting.
- Lori will also work to incorporate new knowledge into day-to-day math specialist work in all 11 schools and 4K cooperative sites.
- The WMC will pay all travel expenses and registration fees. There will be no cost to the district for this opportunity.

Out of State Travel --

- The National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM) annual conference, provides 2 ½ days of keynote & breakout sessions for administrators and teacher leaders

in mathematics education to hear about the most recent findings in research and trends in testing and assessments. This year's conference theme and focus is "Making Waves in Effective Mathematics Leadership." As the Student Learning Office PLC continues to look at district mathematics data there is evidence of need for change in our mathematics instruction.

- The NCSM and NCTM conferences are scheduled in San Diego from April 1-6, 2019.
- Lori will share the learning with the SLO PLC at regular PLC team meeting.
- Lori will also work to incorporate new knowledge into day-to-day math specialist work in all 11 schools and 4K cooperative sites.
- The WMC will pay mileage & flight expenses to and from CA and lodging, meals, and registration for the NCTM conference so Lori can represent Wisconsin at the National Conference.
- The approximate cost for the MPSD will be \$1400.00 for lodging, meals, and registration.

Keith Shaw made a motion to approve the two out of state travel requests. A second of this motion was made by Dave Nickels and all members approved the two out of state travel requests. These requests will be brought to Board of Education.

Keith Shaw made a motion to adjourn the Curriculum Committee meeting at 6:46pm. A second of this motion was made by Dave Nickels and all members approved the adjournment of the meeting.